For Immediate Release
May 12, 2007
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Ramadi Electrical Projects Underway

By Norris Jones
Gulf Region Central District

The Tameen Southeast generating facility will soon be fully operational providing 11 megawatts of additional electricity to the Ramadi grid in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq. (USACE photo by Norris Jones)

RAMADI, Iraq – Work by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Central district continues to upgrade Ramadi's electrical system in the Al Anbar province west of Baghdad, Iraq.

Eight diesel-powered electrical generators in southeast Tameem will soon be online providing up to 11 additional megawatts of electricity to residents in that area. Tameem is located in the southwest section of Ramadi.

"We will soon be commissioning the plant," said Dean Mesenbrink, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Central district project engineer. "The community is definitely looking forward to some additional power being added to the grid."

Apart from that work, Mesenbrink is overseeing several other projects designed to provide a more stable and reliable electrical network for Ramadi residents.

Construction started recently on a $27.8 million 132kV substation, said Mesenbrink.

"After 25 years of neglect, Ramadi's existing 132kV substation was simply worn out," Mesenbrink explained. "This

will help provide a stable grid for the community's electrical needs. In addition, the new overhead transmission lines are being installed to power that new substation."

Mesenbrink also manages the installation of two new diesel-powered generators for the Kabeer Water Treatment Plant, the community's largest source of drinking water. That work includes new concrete pads for the generators, sunshades, a new fuel tank, cable, and operator training which will provide the facility four megawatts of power.

The Gulf Region Central district is also overseeing the water treatment facility renovation which includes the addition of new pumps, construction a laboratory, repairing clarifiers and chlorinators, repairing mechanical valves and electric controllers for the sand/gravel filters to bring the system back to its 6,000 cubic meters per hour maximum capacity, he said.

Mesenbrink says his main job with all the projects is ensuring the contractors are providing quality construction in a safe manner. "Iraqis expect and deserve that," he noted. "There's no doubt that these projects will benefit Ramadi."

Editor's note: Norris Jones is the Public Affairs Officer of the Gulf Region Central district, Gulf Region Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq. For more information, contact Norris Jones at (540) 665-2644 or email requests to *CEGRD.PAO@tac01.usace.army.mil*. For more information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, visit *www.grd.usace.army.mil*.